

My trouble with the changes to the digital broadcasting standard is that it severely limits what consumers can do with the recordings that they make. These limitations fall into a number of categories that the FCC is already looking at, but one of the biggest that bothers me is more nebulous: future use. There probably are a large number of possible uses that just haven't been thought of yet for these recordings. Consider the amazing changes that e-mail and the web brought about. Few people, and definitely not the legislature, were ready for these changes to everything from simple correspondence to FCC comment procedures.

Limiting what consumers can do with data beyond what Copyright and Fair Use already limit is what the FCC is doing. The DMCA will make it illegal to circumvent these new measures, not to mention that I'm sure final rulings will be codified into law. Those limitations will stifle new and creative approaches to this data. By giving Hollywood a blank check to handle this media however they deem fit, you can be certain that their approach will be to ensure their current revenue stream without enough regard to future possibilities.

I urge the FCC to keep the new laws in the spirit of the audio and video tape laws of the past. Please don't add new restrictions to what consumers can do with their media.

Thank you,  
Rudy Moore